

sight to *W. ludicra*, Cambr., but is larger*; the caput is proportionally less high; and the form and structure of the palpi and palpal organs are quite different.

Genus LINYPHIA, Latr.

Linyphia misera, sp. n.

Linyphia turbatrix, Cambr. Ann. & Mag. Nat. Hist., Sept. 1879, p. 206.

In naming this spider (*l. c. suprà*), the fact that the name "*turbatrix*" had been conferred two years before upon an arctic species (*l. c.* October 1877, p. 281) was overlooked; it becomes therefore necessary to rename the British species, upon which the name "*misera*" is now conferred.

List of Spiders.

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| <i>Auletta excavata</i> , sp. n., p. 258,
Pl. XIII. fig. 1. | <i>Walckenaëra antepenultima</i> , sp. n.,
p. 259, Pl. XIII. fig. 3. |
| <i>Walckenaëra orbiculata</i> , sp. n.,
p. 260, Pl. XIII. fig. 2. | <i>Linyphia misera</i> , sp. n., p. 262. |

EXPLANATION OF PLATE XIII.

- Fig. 1. *Auletta* (g. n.) *excavata*, sp. n., p. 258. *a*, spider, enlarged; *b*, ditto, in profile, without legs or palpi; *c*, ditto, from above; *d*, maxillæ, labium, and sternum; *e*, genital aperture; *f*, natural length of spider.
- Fig. 2. *Walckenaëra orbiculata*, sp. n., p. 260. *a*, spider, enlarged; *b*, ditto, in profile, without legs or palpi; *c*, caput and falces, from in front; *d*, right palpus, from in front on the inner side; *e*, natural length of spider.
- Fig. 3. *Walckenaëra antepenultima*, sp. n., p. 259. *a*, outline of spider, from above, without legs or palpi; *b*, ditto, in profile; *c*, caput, from above and behind; *d*, left palpus, from in front; *e*, ditto, from above, in front and rather sideways; *f*, natural length of spider.

XXVIII.—*Ninth Contribution to the Knowledge of the Fauna of Madagascar* †. By DR. ALBERT GÜNTHER, F.R.S.

THE following new species of reptiles were obtained, with many others previously described, by the Rev. Deans Cowan,

* Though, from the shortness of the cephalothorax and the projecting of the abdomen so much over it, the spider is in reality no longer than *W. ludicra*, Cambr.

† 7. "Description of a new Snake from Madagascar," Ann. & Mag. Nat. Hist. 1873, xi. p. 374.

8. "Seventh Contribution to the Knowledge of the Fauna of Madagascar," *ibid.* 1881, vii. p. 357.

in Eastern Betsileo, more especially at Arkafana. The collection contained also large series of *Gongylus splendidus*, *Chamaeleon O'Shaughnessii*, *Chamaeleon brevicornis* (with which *C. gularis* is identical), *Sanzinia madagascariensis*, &c.

Gongylus macrocercus.

Supranasal shields narrow, in contact with each other. Rostral shield with the upper margin straight. Frontal broad, single, with a straight posterior margin. Vertical large, bell-shaped, narrower in front than behind, with a shallow notch in the middle of its hind margin, the small central occipital fitting into the notch. One pair of occipitals. Nostrils in a notch of the rostral shield; postnasal only one fifth the size of the loreal. Seven upper labials, the fourth larger than the third, and situated below the eye. Anterior lower labial rather narrow, succeeded by a single mentale, which is rather broader than long; seven lower labials.

Eyelids scaly; ear-opening small, round. Body surrounded by twenty-seven, twenty-eight, or twenty-nine longitudinal series of scales. There are from seventy-three to seventy-seven transverse series of scales between the mentale and the vent; the body therefore is slender.

Four preanal scutes, the two central ones being the largest.

Fore limbs small, reaching but little beyond the ear-opening when laid forward. Toes short, the third and fourth equal in length. The hind limb and toes short, the fifth toe longer than the second, the fourth and fifth longer than the third. Upper parts brown, finely mottled with darker; lower parts whitish.

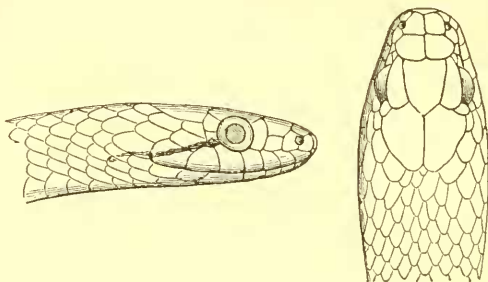
	millim.
A. B.	
Distance of the snout from the eye	5; 4.5 *
" " " ear-opening..	13; 12.5
" " " fore limb ..	27; 23
" " " vent	90; 92
Length of the tail	150; (broken)
" " fore limb.....	15; 12
" " third front toe	3.5; 2
" " hind limb	25; 20
" " fourth hind toe	9; 5

Several specimens from Eastern Betsileo.

*Ptyas infrasignatus.*¹

Head moderately broad and high, distinct from neck, with the snout not elongate. Body rather elongate. Tail of moderate length. Eye rather large. Rostral shield a little

broader than high, scarcely reaching the upper surface of the head. Anterior frontals half the size of the posterior. Ver-



tical rather broad, with the lateral margins convergent, equal in length to the anterior. Occipitals rather small. One loreal shield only, square; one preocular, extending onto the upperside of the head, but not reaching the vertical. Two postoculars. Eight upper labials, the fourth and fifth entering the orbit. Temporals scale-like, $2+2+3$. Scales lanceolate, much imbricated, smooth, in nineteen rows. Ventrals without any keel, 156-160; anal bifid, subcaudals 69-72. The maxillary teeth slightly increase in length posteriorly; but the hindmost is considerably larger than the others, and there is no vacant space between it and its predecessor.

Brownish olive above, with an indistinct lighter line from each occipital along each side of the anterior half of the body; the lower parts are whitish or reddish, with numerous small blackish spots; these spots have a tendency towards forming regular longitudinal series, three bands being thus formed in one of our specimens, one along the middle and one along each side of the belly. An oblique black stripe runs from the eye to the angle of the mouth.

The largest of three specimens is 37 inches long, the tail measuring 8 inches.

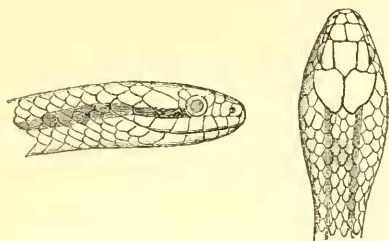
Arkafana, Eastern Betsileo.

Dromicus sexlineatus.

Scales in seventeen rows; body and tail moderately slender; ventrals 146, 148, 150; anal bifid, subcaudals 79, 76, 75. Head rather small, eye of moderate size. Vertical large, as long or nearly as long as an occipital. Loreal higher than long, two pre- and two postoculars. Eight upper labials, the fourth and fifth entering the orbit; temporals $1+2+3$, the anterior in contact with the lower postocular only.

Dentition diacrantherian. Upper parts dark brownish

olive, with six black longitudinal bands, of which, however, two or more may be indistinct or disappear altogether. The



bands of the middle pair are separated by the three median dorsal series of scales, narrow, and frequently absent. The upper lateral band commences from the lower postocular, and passes behind into a broad band, bordering the subcaudals. The lower lateral band runs along the edge of the abdomen, and is sometimes narrow, sometimes broader. Lower parts whitish, with more or less numerous blackish spots, the spots being much more developed in the female than in the male.

Three specimens from Eastern Betsileo, the largest 24 inches long, the tail measuring $6\frac{1}{2}$ inches.

Dromicus macrocercus.

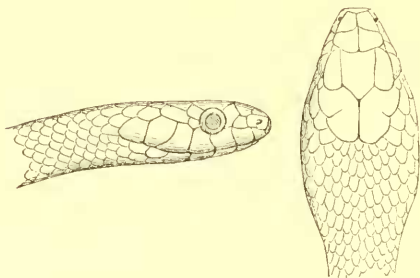
Extremely similar to *D. sexlineatus*, but much more elongate and slender. Scales in seventeen rows; ventrals 156, 156, 159; anal bifid; subcaudals 153, 139, 152. Head rather small, eye of moderate size; vertical not quite so long as occipital; loreal square; one pre- and two postoculars. Eight upper labials, the fourth and fifth entering the orbit; temporals 1+2+3, the anterior in contact with the lower postocular only. Dentition diacrantherian. The coloration is the same as in *D. sexlineatus*, with the exception that the two median dorsal bands are scarcely indicated.

Three specimens from Eastern Betsileo, the largest being 42 inches long, the tail alone measuring $21\frac{1}{2}$ inches.

Tachymenis infralineatus.

Scales smooth, in nineteen series, those of the vertebral series not enlarged. Ventrals 186; anal entire; subcaudals 62. Head moderately broad, depressed; loreal subtriangular, as high as long; one preocular, extending onto the upper-side of the head, but not reaching the vertical. Two postoculars. Seven upper labials, the third and fourth entering the orbit; temporals 1+2+3, the anterior in contact with both postoculars. None of the anterior maxillary or palatine

teeth are enlarged; but the hindmost of the upper jaw is distinctly the largest and grooved.



Upper parts greyish olive, with a blackish median line along the posterior part of the trunk and of the tail. A similar but less distinct line runs along the outer edge of the subcaudals and posterior ventrals. An oblique blackish line from the eye towards the angle of the mouth. Lower parts whitish; anteriorly with some blackish specks, which congregate and form a well-defined narrow black band along the middle of the belly and the tail.

One specimen from Eastern Betsileo is 31 inches long, the tail measuring 6 inches.

XXIX.—*Some Sponges from the West Indies and Acapulco in the Liverpool Free Museum described, with general and classificatory Remarks.* By H. J. CARTER, F.R.S. &c.

[Plates XI. & XII.]

In the following report of Sponges from the West Indies and Acapulco, collected for the Liverpool Free Museum by the Rev. H. H. Higgins, M.A.*, and Capt. W. H. Cawne Warren respectively, I propose to identify those which are already known, and to name and describe those which hitherto have not been published, availing myself at the same time

* Mr. Reginald Cholmondeley, of "Condoval Hall," Shrewsbury, having chartered the yacht 'Argo' for a cruise in the West Indies during the winter of 1876-77, kindly offered to take a naturalist with him on behalf of the Liverpool Free Museum, upon which the Rev. H. H. Higgins, M.A., solicited by the committee of the museum, undertook this office.